[Translation]

Allocation of Transponders

872. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR:

SHRI MADAN PATIL:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister OF COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as many as 83 Telephone stations including many district headquarters across the country have been completely out off due to a snag in the INSAT 2D satellite;

(b) whether the basic telephone services of the Department of Telecom in the remote areas of North East States has been adversely affected;

(c) whether the Department of Space has been requested to allocate some Transponders on alternative satellite to meet the essential and commercial requirements of DOT Communication facilities connecting Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the steps being considered by the Department to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) 75 Nos. of Telephone stations were affected all over the country due to failure of INSAT-20.

(b) Yes, Sir, Long Distance Telecom, Service at about 26 Telephone stations were affected in N.E. States.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Communication facilities of Jammu & Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh as well as those of other states which were affected by failure of INSAT-2D, have been restored except for one station (Machuka) in Arunachal Pradesh, by reducing the size of Inter Metro Satellite Traffic and by utilisation of spare transponder on INSAT-2C. The restoration work at Machuka, which is affected due to local power plant problem at the station, is in progress.

[English]

Konark Temple in Orissa

873. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Konark temple in Orissa is likely to be dismantled to check the damage;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to repair the temple under the World Heritage list of UNESCO?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. R. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Some investigations are necessary for determining future conservation of the monument for which a grant of US$ 39,000 has been approved by UNESCO. The investigations will, inter alia, include stabilization of one of the existing holes in the 'Jagamohana', of the Temple to enable visual inspection and assessment within of the structural conservation required.

Irrigation Facilities in Orissa

874. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have a proposal to augment the irrigation facilities in Orissa by 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the target fixed therefor;

(c) the progress made so far;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the target; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (e) Irrigation projects for development of irrigation facilities are planned and implemented by the State Government from the Plan allocations of the States. However, with a view to expedite completion of ongoing Major & Medium irrigation and Multipurpose projects, Union Government have launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97. Under AIBP Rs. 500 crores have been released by the Ministry of Water Resource as Central Loan Assistance (CLA) on matching basis for selected ongoing Major & Medium irrigation and Multipurpose projects in various States of the country during 1996-97. Out of this, Rs. 48.45 crores was released to the Government of Orissa as CLA for four projects namely, Rengali Irrigation Project, Upper Indrawati right bank canal, Subernarekha Multipurpose project and Anandpur Barrage. One more project namely Upper Kolab of Orissa has also been included for assistance under AIBP durint 1997-98. An outlaw of Rs. 1300 crores has been earmarked during 1997-98 under AIBP. For the State of Orissa, an amount of Rs. 90.00 crores has been approved as CLA under AIBP during the year 1997-98, out of which Rs. 44.20 crores has already been released to the State. Project-wise details of CLA provided to Orissa under AIBP is as under:

S.No.	Name of Project	Approved CLA	CLA released during 1997-98
1.	Rengali Irrigation	20.00	10.00
2.	Upper Indravati	30.00	15.00
3.	Subernarekha Multipurpose	27.00	13.50
4.	Anandpur Barrage	3.00	0.70
5.	Upper Kolab	10.00	5.00
		90.00	44.20